

Chair Greenlick and members of the committee,

Thank you for addressing this issue that prevents Oregon Medical Marijuana Patients from obtaining organ transplants. I serve on the Board of Directors for Compassionate Oregon and for OR NORML (the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws). Members in both organizations are vulnerable if a doctor recommends cannabis in the event that they need an organ transplant. Patients should be able to obtain a transplant if they are using doctor recommended medicine.

Much research exists to support the argument that cannabis can help [over a dozen ailments](#) without [harming a person's liver](#) like many other medications are known to do. The late great Oregon activist, Jim Klahr was forced to abstain from using medical cannabis because he was awaiting a transplant. Sadly he passed away within a week of his transplant surgery. I wonder if he would still be alive today if he was able to use medical cannabis during the years he was awaiting the transplant.

I would go further to argue that all Oregonians should be able to receive a transplant even if they use cannabis without a medical cannabis recommendation because our citizens would not be violating Oregon laws. However we should start by passing this bill and we can address this problem later.

Thank you,

Sarah Duff  
OR NORML  
Compassionate OR